

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, July 26, 1983

Wayne Ducote
Vice-Chairman

400 Royal St.
New Orleans, Louisiana

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION

July 26, 1983

AGENDA

Page No.

1. Roll call. 1
2. Approval of the minutes of June 28, 1983. 1
3. Request for renewal of permit from Louisiana Paving Co., to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, mile 83.0 in the vicinity of Poydras, St. Bernard, Parish, Louisiana. 1
4. Request for renewal of permit from Boh Brothers Construction Co., to remove fill material from the banks and bottom of the Algiers Navigational Canal, part of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, located on the west levee at approximately canal station 115 and 80 from the right descending bank of the Mississippi River at the junction of the Algiers Canal which is approximately 88 miles AHP. 2
5. Request for renewal of permit from Louisiana Paving Co. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 143.7 in the vicinity of Johnson, St. James Parish, La. 2
6. Request for renewal of permit from T. L. James & Co., to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, mile 54.3 AHP in the vicinity of Nero, Plaquemines Parish, La. 3
7. Request for renewal of permit from Louisiana Paving Co. to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, between mile 220.17 and mile 220.89 AHP, in the vicinity of Gardene, East Baton Rouge Parish, La. 3
8. Report on brown shrimp season. 4
9. Consider establishing a western boundary line for Breton and Chandeleur Sounds. 4
10. Monthly survey report. 4

| | | |
|-----|---|---------|
| 11. | Setting of oyster season on public grounds. | 6 |
| 12. | Setting of oyster season on Calcasieu River. | 5 |
| 13. | Toledo Bend netting restrictions. | 7 |
| 14. | Set date for alligator season. | 8 |
| 15. | Set dates for trapping season. | 8 |
| 16. | Notice of Intent to change rules on Rockefeller Refuge. | 9 |
| 17. | National Hunting & Fishing Day, September 24, 1983. | 11 |
| 18. | Establish seasons for doves, rails, gallinules, snipe & teal. | 17 |
| 19. | Boundary dispute on Boeuf Wildlife Management Area. | 14 |
| 20. | Confiscation and forfeiture policy. | 16 |
| 21 | Reciprocal agreement between Mississippi & Louisiana re: fishing license on Pearl River. | 18 |
| 22. | Alligator season regulations. | 21 - 28 |
| 23. | Bobcat and otter tagging requirements. | 29 |
| 24. | Migratory hunting season dates. | 30 |

MINUTES OF MEETING
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA
July 26, 1983

Vice-Chairman Wayne C. Ducote, presiding:

Members present:

Dr. Jack Cappel, Member
Mr. George Gray, Member
Mr. Jesse Knowles, Member

Secretary Jesse J. Guidry was present.

* * * *

The regular monthly meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission was called to order by Vice-Chairman, Mr. Wayne Ducote, on Monday July 25, 1983 at 2:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel and seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that the Commission go into a committee of the whole.

Invocation was offered by Dr. Jack Cappel.

A roll call of members present was taken.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously that the minutes of June 28, 1983 be approved.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to Louisiana Paving Co. for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is
here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Louisiana Paving Company, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 83.0 in the vicinity of Poydras, St. Bernard, Louisiana, on a month to month basis, beginning July 17, 1983 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to Boh Brothers Construction Co., for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is
here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Boh Brothers Construction Co., subcontractor to the Sewage and Water Board of New Orleans, to remove fill material from the banks and bottom of the Algiers Navigational Canal, part of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Located on the west levee at approximately 88 miles AHP, on a month to month basis, beginning July 26, 1983 at royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to Louisiana Paving Company for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is
here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Louisiana Paving Company, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, right descending bank, Mile 143.7 in the vicinity of Johnson, St. James Parish, Louisiana, on a month to month basis, beginning July 29, 1983 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to T. L. James & Company for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to T. L. James & Company, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 54.3 AHP in the vicinity of Nero, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, on a month to month basis, beginning July 15, 1983 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to T. L. James & Company for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to T. L. James & Company, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, Mile 54.3 AHP in the vicinity of Nero, Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana, on a month to month basis, beginning July 15, 1983 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel, and passed unanimously, that a renewal of permit be granted to Louisiana Paving Company for the removal of fill material.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby grant permission to Louisiana Paving Company, to remove fill material from the Mississippi River, left descending bank, between Mile 220.17 and Mile 220.89 AHP, in the vicinity of Gardene, East Baton Rouge Parish, Louisiana, on a month to month basis, beginning

July 26, 1983 at a royalty rate of 10¢ per cubic yard. The following shall be in effect until the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission's Oyster and Shrimp Committee completes their study and whereby the Commission takes action.

* * * *

Dr. Ford gave a report on the brown shrimp season through the period July 19, 1983. The total catch (heads-off) was 11,772,300. This is significantly lower than 1981 and 1982 but comparable to 1980.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. George Gray, seconded by Dr. Cappel, and passed unanimously, to establish a western boundary line for Breton and Chandeleur Sounds.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, there is a need to define the interior limits of Chandeleur and Breton Sounds for vessels using two trawls in order to conserve and protect small juvenile shrimp in nursery ground areas, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission at its regular meeting on July 26, 1983 does hereby establish the western limits of Chandeleur and Breton Sounds as being that area extending generally east of a line running south from the Louisiana - Mississippi boundary to the east end of Isle Aux Pitre to Door Point, Brush Island, Point Comfort, Point Chico, Grace Point (Break-in-the-Rocks, MR-GO), Mozambique Point, Telegraph Point, California Point, Sable Island Light, Raccoon Point, Coquille Point, Deep Water Point, and the northeastern point of land at Taylor Pass.

* * * *

Ron Dugas gave the following survey report:

Total field activity for the year:

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| 373 | - | Applications scheduled. |
| 330 | - | Applications surveyed. |
| 41 | - | Applications unable to survey due to bad weather conditions and low tide. |
| 10 | - | Disputes settled. |
| 3 | - | Shell plants surveyed. |

Office activity consisted of:

| | | |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|
| \$898.04 | - | 1983 rental collected. |
| \$ 80.00 | - | Survey application fees collected. |
| 22 | - | Leases issued. |

Retyped location listing of all leases located in Lafourche, Plaquemines and Jefferson Parishes.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to open the oyster season in Calcasieu Lake as set forth in the following resolution.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Commission biologists and the Chief of the Seafood Division have recommended the fishing of the oysters in Calcasieu Lake with the exception of the Calcasieu River and Ship Channnel, East Fork, West Fork, and Oyster Bayou, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Health and Human Resources will examine the growing oysters of this aforementioned areas approve the waters for fishing oysters if the health standards are met, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission that the Calcasieu Lake Oyster Season for 1983-1984 be set in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

- (1) That the oyster season in Calcasieu Lake be fixed to extend from one-half hour before sunrise on Tuesday, November 1, 1983 through one-half hour after sunset on Saturday, March 31, 1984 with the right being reserved to close said season sooner if biologically justifiable.
- (2) That oyster fishing be limited only to the use of tongs and to daylight hours.
- (3) The open areas shall be confined to the area of Calcasieu Lake with the exception of Calcasieu River and Ship Channel, East Fork, West Fork, and Oyster Bayou which shall be closed.
- (4) The three inch culling law shall be observed by all fishermen fishing the area and the culls shall be scattered around the perimeter of the reefs to provide for expansion of future harvesting.
- (5) The taking of oysters for commercial purposes shall be limited to 15 sacks per boat per day.
- (6) All oysters shall be put into sacks before leaving the oyster fishing area in Calcasieu Lake. Oysters not in sacks leaving the fishing area in Calcasieu Lake shall be confiscated and violator subject to penalty set forth in Title 56, Section 115.

- (7) The taking of oysters for home consumption shall be limited to three bushels (two sacks per boat per day).
- (8) All commercial fishing of oysters shall be done only with proper licenses, and the sacks of oysters be properly tagged before leaving the fishing vessel. All sacks entering into commerce shall be tagged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary be and is hereby authorized and empowered to change the limit or close said season, if biologically sound.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to set the oyster season on public seed grounds.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the natural oyster reefs (oyster seed grounds) under the managerial supervision of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission must open on the first Wednesday following Labor Day, September 7, 1983 as provided for by Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which also authorized the Commission to regulate the size limit and area closures after January 1 of each year on state controlled grounds, and

WHEREAS, "Oyster Seed Reservations" are small portions of "Oyster Seed Grounds" managed and controlled for seed oyster production which are opened on alternate years.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission does hereby open the "Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation", "Hackberry Bay (Du Chene) Oyster Seed Reservation" and the "Bay Junop Oyster Seed Reservation", in accordance with Louisiana Law Title 56, Section 433, which opens said season one-half hour before sunrise on the first Wednesday following Labor Day, September 7, 1983, with the exception of Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation. Said season on the other reservations shall remain open with the same regulations as the regular oyster season; however, the secretary shall be authorized and empowered to close the two areas if it is deemed necessary by biological investigations and sampling.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the "Bay Gardene Oyster Seed Reservation" will remain open for a 12 day period (September 7 through September 18), close and then reopen November 1, 1983 for the remaining portion of the public oyster season.

This is an emergency action. The reason for this emergency action is that the biological surveys to determine the amount, size, and condition of the oysters and oyster seed grounds have to be made continually until the week prior to the Commission Meeting in which this matter is the subject on the agenda.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. George Gray, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel and passed unanimously, that there be a closed season on hoop nets from March 1 through May 15 each year in a portion of Toledo Bend Lake.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, studies conducted by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries on Toledo Bend Reservoir have demonstrated the detrimental effects that the use of certain types of commercial fish nets have on gamefish populations,

WHEREAS, a survey conducted prior to the initial net ban request of August, 1981 indicated a moderate commercial fishery does exist in Toledo Bend Reservoir, however, the majority of commercial fishermen fished only on a part time basis, and the primary fish sought after were catfishes, and

WHEREAS, commercial fishermen on this lake can still effectively take catfish with the use of hoop nets, slat traps, setlines, bush lines, and trot lines, and

WHEREAS, to protect and enhance the viable sportfishery that now exists in Toledo Bend Reservoir

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission hereby extends the prohibition on gill nets, trammel nets, flag webbing and fish seines in the Louisiana portion of Toledo Bend Reservoir and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the closed season on hoop nets continue during the period March 1 through May 15 each year only in that portion of Toledo Bend from a point north of Logansport where the lake enters Texas, and south to a point on the Lake where the Texas Duck Refuge Canal intersects the old channel of the Sabine River. The extension of this rule will remain in effect for a three year period until October 20, 1986.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel and passed unanimously, that the alligator season be established for 1983.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under the Endangered Species Act to establish an alligator season; and

WHEREAS, the alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, the removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules, regulations, and guidelines for administering the 1983 alligator season.

The rules, regulations and guidelines are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

* * * *

Motion was made Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray and passed unanimously, that the trapping season dates be set for 1983-84.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the fur industry of Louisiana represents a major resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance in our state; and

WHEREAS, an annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with wise wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and,

WHEREAS, fur prices were depressed for a second year during the 1982/83 trapping season as a result of the world economic situation; and

WHEREAS, this depressed price level combined with winter flooding both in upland and coastal areas produced a dramatic drop in trapper success, trapper effort and the resulting harvest; and

WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the Endangered Species Office concerning out-of-state shipment for otter and bobcat furs will again require placement of a possession tag by trappers or buyers to insure state origin; and

WHEREAS, the zonation concept during the past two seasons has proved workable and beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced favorable comments generated within the fur industry; and

WHEREAS, Legislation during the 1983 session allows a licensed hunter to take raccoon and/or opossum during daylight hours during the open squirrel season; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby establish the 1983-84 fur bearers trapping season for the northern zone as being November 20, 1983 through February 15, 1984 and the southern zone as being December 1, 1983 through February 28, 1984, and sets a bag limit for daytime and nighttime raccoon and opossum hunting outside the trapping season of one raccoon and/or opossum per hunter per day or night; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the attached regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts are adopted for the 1983-84 trapping season.

The regulations governing the buying, tagging and shipment of bobcat and otter pelts are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

* * * *

Motion was made by Dr. Jack Cappel, seconded by Mr. George Gray and passed unanimously, to change the rules for Rockefeller Refuge.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries received the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge under a conditional Deed of

Donation in 1920; and

WHEREAS, the Deed of Donation has been revised by a Memorandum of Agreement between the Department of the Interior and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries effective the 18th day of April, 1983; and

WHEREAS, provisions of the original Deed of Donation and the Memorandum of Agreement permit recreational use of the area; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been permitting sport fishing and other recreational use of the area for 25 years without interference with the wildlife management programs on the area; and

WHEREAS, numerous regulations have been adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to control public use of the wildlife refuge area; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the following rules and regulations to govern the use of the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge for sport fishing and other recreational uses.

1. The visiting season on the Rockefeller Wildlife Refuge will extend from March 1st through December 1st throughout the refuge except those restricted areas designated to prohibit interference with research activities. Use of Humble Canal; Joseph Harbor Bayou; Headquarters Canal; Union Producing Canal; Deep Lake; East End Boundary Canal; and Rollover Bayou shall be yearround. In addition to this access, sport fishermen shall be permitted to enter the Refuge from the Gulf side in East Constance Bayou, East Little Constance Bayou, Big Constance Bayou, Little Constance Bayou. Access through these bayou's will be permitted only as far inland as the existing water control structures. The remainder of the Refuge shall be restricted during the winter months and will be closed to all trespassing.

2. Use of the Refuge will be allowed from one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour before official sunrise until official sunset. This includes access routes through the Refuge.

3. Overnight camping is prohibited.

4. Hunting, molesting or intentional disturbing of wildlife is prohibited.

5. Trawling on the Refuge is prohibited. Trotlines, trammel and gill fish nets are prohibited. All commercial fishing is prohibited. One-hundred (100) pounds of shrimp per boat is allowed during the inside open shrimp season as established by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission annually. Ten (10) pounds of shrimp for bait purposes may be caught during the closed season. Shrimp can be harvested only be cast net or dip net on the Refuge and only for sport fishing or home consumption use.

6. Crawfish may be harvested from the open portion of the Refuge and one-hundred (100) pounds per boat or vehicle is allowed. Set nets or traps may be used but must be attended and removed from the Refuge daily. No commercial harvest allowed.

7. Oysters may be harvested from the natural reefs. One (1) gallon per boat is allowed and oysters must be opened at the reef and the shells returned to the reef.

8. The burning of the marshes is prohibited. Water control structures are not to be tampered with or altered by anyone other than employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

9. Bringing firearms, bows, and arrows, liquor and controlled substance narcotics onto the Refuge is prohibited. All boats and vehicles are subject to search by all authorized employees of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at anytime.

10. Boat travel on the Refuge will be maintained at a minimum and boats shall be operated so as to create a minimum of wave wash. Speed boat racing and water skiing is prohibited.

11. No littering is allowed. Visitors must remove their litter or place in appropriate litter disposal sites. Cleaning of fish on the Refuge is allowed, however remains must be properly disposed of.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Secretary is hereby authorized to publicize this change in regulations through the news media.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Dr. Jack Cappel and passed unanimously, to establish September 24, 1983 at National Hunting & Fishing Day.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, because of the outstanding contributions that America's hunters and fishermen have made to conservation, recreation and the economy, they are deserving of special recognition, and

WHEREAS, since the turn of the century, hunters and anglers have been the leaders in nearly all major conservation programs. These sportsmen-conservationists are responsible for the funding of state fish and game departments in all fifty states. They asked that they, themselves, be required to buy licenses and that the money collected be used to support state conservation agencies. In the last fifty years alone, these sportsmen have provided \$2.5 billion for conservation programs, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen asked for the establishment of regulation seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, asked for the establishment of regulation seasons and bag limits so that sportsmen could harvest the annual crop of game and fish without damage to the basic breeding population. The result has been that there are now more deer, elk, antelope and wild turkey in the United States than there were fifty years ago. Further, sportsmen's programs have benefited numerous species of non-game fish and wildlife through habitat development, and

WHEREAS, hunters and fishermen, unique in all America, asked that their fishing and hunting equipment be taxed and that the money be used for land acquisition, research and habitat management for fish and wildlife for the enjoyment of all Americans, and

WHEREAS, through their publications and organizations such as the National Wildlife Federation, Ducks Unlimited, Izaak Walton League of America and many others, hunters and fishermen have led the nation in the battle for a better environment and the wise use of our natural resources.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby proclaim September 24, 1983 as National Hunting and Fishing Day in Louisiana. The Commission urges all of our citizens to join with the sportsmen-conservationists in a re-dedication to the wise use of our natural resources and their proper

management for the benefit of future generations. Further, the Commission urges all citizens to take part in National Hunting and Fishing Day activities on September 24, 1983, to learn more about conservation and outdoor skills.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. George Gray, seconded by Mr. Jesse Knowles, and passed unanimously, to establish the 1983-84 migratory bird hunting season dates.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Chief of the Game Division has recommended and presented proposed hunting season dates for Migratory birds other than waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, these dates are similar to last years dates and the majority of hunters seemed to be pleased with these dates, and

WHEREAS, the Game Division has recommended all day shooting for Mourning doves, and

WHEREAS, opinion polls have been conducted for hunter preference of all day dove shooting or one half day shooting starting at noon, and

WHEREAS, the opinion polls showed that 58% of the hunters preferred all day shooting and 42% preferred one half day shooting beginning at noon each day, and

WHEREAS, members of the Commission have received numerous requests for the one half day shooting on mourning doves, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on the twenty sixth day of July, 1983 that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission accept the recommendations of the Game Division with the exception of the Mourning dove season, the shooting hours for this species will be $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before sunrise to sunset except on the opening first two days of each season segment, September 3 and 4, October 15 and 16 and December 10 and 11 when shooting hours will be noon until sunset.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that the 1983-84 migratory bird hunting season dates be set under the Emergency Procedure Act.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has received from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service the framework for hunting seasons on migratory species other than waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has ten days to return their recommendations to the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service on migratory bird seasons other than waterfowl, and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will not have sufficient time to adopt hunting season recommendations and send them through the normal procedure of the Administrative Act, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission use the Emergency Procedure to set migratory bird seasons other than waterfowl, so the sportsmen of our State will have the advantage of the 1983-84 migratory bird season as permitted by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that certain boundary disputes be settled on Boeuf Wildlife Management Area.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, certain boundary disputes exist in and on the Boeuf Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the Department and Commission are in the process of selling back to the original vendors certain tracts of land in order to resolve said disputes; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to sell back the following parcels: 0.3 acres to Joe and Edna Festervand which is more particularly described in the Act of Sale; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to proceed with the above sale following the accepted procedures and guidelines.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that certain boundary disputes be settled on Boeuf Wildlife Management Area.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, certain boundary disputes exist in and on the Boeuf Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the Department and Commission are in the process of selling back to the original vendors certain tracts of land in order to resolve said disputes; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to sell back the following parcel: 6.0 acres to Doyle and Nellie Nugent which is more particularly described in the Act of Sale; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to proceed with the above sale following the accepted procedures and guidelines.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that certain boundary disputes be settled on Boeuf Wildlife Management Area.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, certain boundary disputes exist in and on the Boeuf Wildlife Management Area; and

WHEREAS, the Department and Commission are in the process of selling back to the original vendors certain tracts of land in order to resolve said disputes; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission desires to sell back the following parcel: 6.23 acres to James and Marie Hall which parcel is more particularly described in the Act of Sale; now,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to proceed with the above sale following the accepted procedures and guidelines.

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, to adopt a revised confiscation and forfeiture policy.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, on January 27, 1981 at a regular Commission meeting the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission adopted a policy on confiscation and forfeitures which is mandated by state law,

WHEREAS, some words dealing with game birds, live quadrupeds, live birds and live fish were omitted,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby correct these omissions by adopting the following confiscation and forfeiture policies.

WILDLIFE & FISHERIES COMMISSION POLICIES
ON CONFISCATION & FORFEITURES

I. Perishable evidence

A. Game quadrupeds, game bird and game fish

1. All game quadrupeds, game bird and game fish seized in connection with a violation of Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Laws by agents, officers, employees of the Department and peace officers of the State, shall be donated to chairtable or non-profit organizations, including, but not limited to schools, hospitals, churches, parish and/or state prisons, and/or persons receiving social welfare benefits.

2. The officer, agent, or employee donating game quadrupeds, game birds or game fish shall obtain a receipt (Form ED-16) which shall be attached to the offense report of the violation in which the quadrupeds or fish were seized.

B Commercial fish and non-game quadrupeds

1. All legal commercial fish and non-game quadrupeds when confiscated by agents, employees of the Department, and officers of the state or parish shall be sold whenever possible by the officer, agent, or employee making the seizure. The officer, agent or employee shall obtain three bids from licensed seafood dealers, if and when possible, and shall sell to the highest bidder.

2. The offense report of the violation in which the fish and non-game quadrupeds were seized shall reflect the name of the company, the amount of the bid and the name of the person making the bid. The money received from such sale shall be delivered to the Chief of the Enforcement Division and kept in escrow by the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries until disposition of the criminal charges. In the event the arresting and seizing officer cannot obtain a sale, the commercial fish and non-game quadrupeds will be donated to charitable or non-profit organizations, or held by the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries until it is no longer needed for prosecution, then it shall be disposed of as the Secretary of the Department shall determine.

II. Nets

A. Legal nets

1. All legal nets confiscated shall be held as evidence by the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries until ordered released by the District Attorney or Court with jurisdiction of the violation. Said release or order shall be in writing and directed to the Secretary of the Department. Unclaimed or unreleased nets shall be held by the Department for a period of three (3) years and at that time may be destroyed or sold at auction if permitted by law. When legal nets are forfeited to the Department, the Department may return nets upon proof that the fine has been paid. Proof may be by letter from the District Attorney or a receipt from the Clerk of Court of the Sheriff of the parish in which the violation occurred.

2. If nets are confiscated from a multiple offender, said nets shall not be released unless ordered released by the Court with jurisdiction of the violation.

B. Illegal nets

1. All illegal nets confiscated shall be held by the Department and shall not be released unless ordered so by the Court in the parish where the violation occurred. All illegal nets shall be held for three (3) years and then may be destroyed by the Department. An illegal net is defined as a net which by design, mesh size, material composition or construction cannot be lawfully used for the taking of shrimp, fish or other water resources in the State of Louisiana.

III. Guns, Boats, Lights, and Equipment

A. All guns, boats, lights and other equipment when confiscated or seized shall be held by the Department until disposition of the

charges. Any gun, boat, light, or other equipment may be returned to the owner or to the accused upon his showing satisfactory proof of ownership and disposition of the charge. Any gun, boat, light or other equipment not claimed or released shall be held for a period of three (3) years and, thereafter, may be destroyed or sold at public auction by the Department, if permitted by law.

B. All guns, boats, lights, and other equipment when confiscated and seized from a multiple offender shall be held by the Department and only released by order of the Court with jurisdiction of the violation. Any gun, boat, light, or other equipment not claimed or released in accordance with the provisions of this paragraph, shall be held for a period of three (3) years, and, thereafter, may be disposed of by the Department in the manner provided by paragraph "A".

A. All confiscated or seized guns, boats, lights, and equipment which the Department has held for three (3) years, of which has been forfeited to the Department or the Louisiana Wildlife & Fisheries Commission, may be used by Department personnel as determined by the Secretary, including, but not limited to educational purposes such as displays, hunter's education, etc. The Department, through the Enforcement Division, shall maintain records of all seizures, forfeitures, and releases and shall obtain an appropriate receipt from the owner of any gun, boat, light or other equipment released by the Department.

B. All live quadrupeds, live birds or live fish confiscated and seized in connection with a violation shall be returned to its wild habitat or the waters of the State of Louisiana, if possible. If this cannot be done, the live quadrupeds, live birds and live fish confiscated and seized shall be donated by the Department, at the discretion of the Secretary, to zoos or other appropriate educational and scientific research institutions.

C. The Chief of the Enforcement Division of the Department of Wildlife & Fisheries shall be responsible for the adherence and implementation of these policies and the rules of evidence relating to seizures and criminal prosecution.

* * * *

Motion was made by Mr. Jesse Knowles, seconded by Mr. George Gray, and passed unanimously, that a reciprocal license agreement between Louisiana and Mississippi be approved.

(The full text of the resolution is here made part of the record)

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana has entered into a Reciprocal Agreement with the State of Mississippi for recreational hunting and fishing licenses in the Mississippi River where it forms a boundary between the States of Louisiana and Mississippi,

WHEREAS, it has come to our attention that there is no Reciprocal Agreement between the State of Louisiana and Mississippi on the Pearl River and the East Pearl River where it forms a common boundary between the two states.

WHEREAS, Title 56:671 and 56:672 authorizes the Commission to enter into Reciprocal Agreements with other states on hunting and fishing licenses.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Secretary to enter into a Reciprocal Agreement with the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Conservation with respect to recreational hunting and fishing licenses along the Pearl River and the East Pearl River where it forms a common boundary between the two states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Reciprocal Agreement shall read as follows:

(The full text of the agreement is here made part of the record)

It is hereby agreed by and between the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Mississippi Department of Wildlife Conservation that there shall be a Reciprocal Agreement between the two states as follows:

Where Louisiana and Mississippi both border along the Pearl and East Pearl River the following stipulations shall apply:

- 1) Current Mississippi resident recreational hunting and fishing licenses shall be valid for the purpose of hunting for migratory waterfowl or fishing by the hunters or fishermen in the Pearl and East Pearl River between the east top bank and the west top bank along the course where the Pearl and the West Pearl River forms a boundary line between the State of Louisiana and the State of Mississippi.

- 2) Current Louisiana resident recreational hunting and fishing licenses shall be valid for the purpose of hunting for migratory waterfowl or fishing by the hunters or fishermen in the Pearl and East Pearl River between the east top bank and the west top bank

along the course where the Pearl and East Pearl River forms a boundary line between the State of Louisiana and the State of Mississippi.

3) Agents and Conservation Officers of both Departments shall work jointly in the enforcement of fish and game regulations that apply to the other state's lands that lie on their side of the main channel of the River.

4) Residents of either state shall have unrestricted ingress and egress through the other State for the purpose of recreational hunting and fishing on lands or waters belonging to their respective State, which falls within the banks of the Pearl and East Pearl River which forms the border between Louisiana and Mississippi.

This agreement shall be in effect from the date it is signed by the representatives of both States, and Agents and Conservation Officers in these areas will be immediately notified by their respective department.

This agreement may be terminated by either party by giving a thirty (30) day written notice.

Minutes transcribed by
Linda Gregson

ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND
FISHERIES COMMISSION AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD IN NEW ORLEANS,
LOUISIANA ON TUESDAY, JULY 26, 1983.

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries recommends

that an alligator season be hereby established in accordance with the following regulations: No exceptions of these procedures will be permitted, and anyone taking alligators contrary to these regulations will be charged in accordance with Title 56 of the Louisiana Laws Pertaining to Wildlife and Fisheries, Revised 1982 Edition; appropriate federal laws; and/or Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations;

1. Open area - Alligator habitat in the state of Louisiana. Harvest quotas will be rigidly controlled according to alligator population estimates within all of the state's wetland habitat types.
2. Harvest season - The open season shall run for a 30-day period beginning on September 10, 1983, and continue through October 9, 1983. Size - no alligators under four feet in length may be taken.
3. Harvest methods - Alligators may be taken only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. If a licensed hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which tags were assigned, all tags and skins for the current season will be confiscated in addition to revocation of the alligator hunting license. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunter licenses shortly before the opening of the

season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Skins processed contrary to the specific requirements of the Department will be considered illegal and will be confiscated by Department personnel. Pole hunting is prohibited to protect the nesting female population. Hooks and lines may be set no more than one day prior to the season opening. No hook and line shall remain set after the closing day of the alligator season. All alligator hooks and lines must be checked daily and all hooks and lines must be removed when a hunter's tag quota is reached. Alligators cannot be cut loose from hooks and lines for purposes of selecting larger alligators.

4. Licenses - An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid commercial alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators or their skins or other alligator parts. The fee for the resident license is \$25.00 per year and for the non-resident \$150.00. These licenses are non-transferable. In order to obtain a resident license, the hunter must have resided within the state for a period of 90 days immediately preceding the season and established bona fide residence in the state. A hunter must complete application forms provided by the Department and furnish proof that he owns the land or has an agreement with the landowner or another authorized hunter to hunt alligators on the specified property. Information as to the location and acreage of the property must be provided (all land descriptions must include parish, township, range, and section delineation figures). Applications must be

submitted beginning August 1, 1983. Property ownership and description requirements do not apply to public lake hunters. The alligator hunter license will be issued only after the hunter has satisfactorily complied with the above requirements. Commercial alligator hunter licenses will not be issued after September 16, 1983. Non-resident hunters and resident sport hunters must coordinate their hunt through landowners and licensed resident hunters. A non-resident hunter may take no more than 3 alligators per season. A fur buyer license or fur dealer license is required for purchasing and handling raw alligator skins in Louisiana. An alligator parts dealer license is required of any person who deals in alligator parts other than hides and who: (a) Buys from an alligator hunter or farmer for the purpose of resale; or (b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or (c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail. A retailer selling canned alligator parts or a retailer purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer or a restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall not be classified as an alligator parts dealer. The fee for the parts dealer license is \$50.00 per year. Persons or firms entering alligators or alligator skins and/or parts in interstate/foreign commerce in the course of a commercial activity must be licensed in accordance with state and federal regulations. Persons shipping alligators, or alligator skins and/or parts to another state must do so in accordance with the regulations of that state.

5. Tagging - In addition to a valid commercial alligator hunting license, the hunter must also obtain from the Department, and have in his possession while hunting, official tags which must be firmly attached to each alligator skin immediately upon taking. Numbered tags will be issued to license holders for a sum of \$5.00 (one fee charged regardless of the number of tags involved). Alligator tags will not be issued after September 16, 1983. The tags must be attached and locked in the last 6 inches of the tail. The tag must remain attached to the skin until finally processed by the fabricator. It shall be illegal to possess alligator skins in Louisiana without valid official tags attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or skin will result in confiscation of both the alligator or skin and tag. Official alligator tags will be issued only to alligator hunters, and farmers and only to those who have authorized applications. The number of tags will be issued on the basis of the quantity and quality of the habitat, and the rate per acre will be fixed based on extensive population estimates. Tags will be issued for alligator habitat only, based on final decision of Department biologists. Tags issued on public lakes are non-transferable and limited to 5 per hunter. No more than this fixed number of tags will be issued. Each official tag will bear a characteristic number, and the tag numbers issued to each hunter will be recorded. Hunters will be held accountable for all alligator tags issued to them. Unused tags must be returned by the hunter to the Department no later than 15 days following the close of the season. Department personnel must be notified, within 15 days following the

close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a commercial buyer or dealer on official Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries forms provided. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced but must be reported within 15 days of close of season. Tags can be used only on the lands applied for and approved on the application. Tags furnished by the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries must be attached to all alligator meat/parts upon transfer by a hunter or farmer.

6. Alligator Farmers and Breeders - Licensed alligator farmers or breeders will be issued permits to kill and skin their alligators but must follow the same rules and regulations which apply to wild alligators (except farm alligators can be harvested during closed season with Department approval).
7. Sale of Alligator Skins - All alligator skins taken during the alligator season must be validated by personnel of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries prior to the hides leaving the state. Special skinning instructions will be verified, and any skins not prepared according to instructions issued in advance of season will be considered illegal. Buyers/dealers must abide by special skinning instructions or be subject to forfeiture of improperly skinned hides.
8. Buyer/Dealer Hide Records - All buyers and dealers making purchases of alligator hides shall maintain a complete set of records of all purchases and sales. Such records will include names and addresses of buyers and/or sellers, alligator hide tag number and length, and date purchased. Dealers will submit reports as required by the Department for all hides purchased/sold. Every buyer or dealer having raw alligator

hides in his possession shall file with the Department within sixty days after the close of the alligator season, or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report as specified on forms provided by the Department.

9. Shipment - All interstate shipments of raw alligator skins must be tagged with official out-of-state shipping tags provided by the Department. All shipments of skins within the state must be tagged with official Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in-state shipping tags. A severance tax of 25¢ per hide must be paid on all out-of-state shipments at the time skins are transported or shipped.
10. Sale of Meat and Parts - Meat and other parts from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to Louisiana Health Department regulations, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations, and federal laws. Alligator meat sold for human food must be processed in a facility approved by the Louisiana Health Department. If a person or firm (corporation) is cited for buying or selling alligator meat that was not processed through a licensed alligator processing plant, all alligator meat in possession will be confiscated. Alligator hunters, farmers, and parts dealers shall maintain records of all transactions, purchases, and sales on forms provided by the Department. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. All alligator meat and parts, excluding hides, shall be tagged with an official alligator parts tag (Color: Blue) to be furnished by the Department. Hunters, farmers, and alligator parts dealers

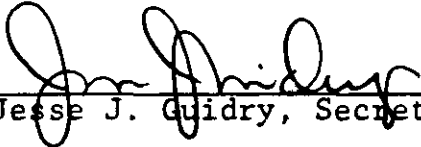
(must be licensed by the Louisiana Health Department) shall furnish a bill of sale to all retailers and restaurants purchasing alligator parts. This bill of sale shall be maintained for a period of six months.

11. Nuisance Removal Program - A statewide alligator nuisance removal program will be administered on an annual basis. This program will allow the taking of problem alligators within the confines of municipal, ward, parish, or state responsibility where there are alligator-people conflicts. Alligators taken under this program must be taken in accordance with state regulations and local regulations/ordinances. Skinning instructions issued by the Department will be for one calendar year. This nuisance removal program depends upon close cooperation of state, parish, and local authorities. Tags may be issued by the Department to an approved licensed hunter who has been designated by Department supervisory personnel or officials of a local governing body. The number of tags issued will be based on the number of complaints received and the quantity and quality of alligator habitat involved. The Commission is hopeful this program will lessen the threat to people and property by reducing human/alligator contact.
12. Hunting on Public Lakes - The Department may select public lakes for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by population surveys by Department personnel. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake each season. The tag quota for a public lake is

5 per hunter. Alligator tags issued on public lakes are non-transferable. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. In the event that the number of applicants for any particular public lake exceeds the number of allowable hunters; a public drawing will be held to select hunters. Applications for public lake hunting must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date.

13. Harvest Rates - Tags will be issued on the following basis, with the exception of alligator farmers, breeders and the nuisance complaint program.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the excerpt of the meetings of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 26, 1983.



Jesse J. Guidry, Secretary

BOBCAT AND OTTER TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

In order to obtain federal approval to export bobcat and otter out of the United States, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries is required to insure that only Louisiana trapped otter and bobcat are tagged with Louisiana export tags.

In order to accomplish this, a special possession tag will be made available to fur buyers.

A blue tag for otter and a red tag for bobcat must be filled out by the trapper at the time the pelt is sold.

The information required includes trapper name, trapper license number, parish caught in and date trapped.

No bobcat or otter pelt shall be purchased from a trapper or be in the possession of a fur buyer without a possession tag.

Dealers shall not purchase bobcat or otter pelts without a possession tag attached.

No bobcat or otter pelt shall be shipped from the state without an export tag attached.

Dealers will obtain export tags for bobcat and otter by providing to the Department one completed possession tag for each pelt to be shipped from the state.

It shall be illegal to falsify possession tags or attach Louisiana export tags to out-of-state bobcat or otter pelts.

Once possession tags have been received and counted by Department personnel, export tags will be mailed immediately.

Trappers shipping bobcat or otter out of state must provide completed possession tags to the Department in order to receive export tags.

Recommendations

1983-84 Migratory Hunting Season Dates

| | <u>Dates</u> | <u>Days</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Rails:</u> | Sept. 17-25 | 9 |
| | Nov. 12-Jan. 11 | 61 |
| | | <u>70</u> Total |
| <u>Gallinules:</u> | Sept. 17-25 | 9 |
| | Nov. 12-Jan. 11 | 61 |
| | | <u>70</u> Total |
| <u>Snipe:</u> | Nov. 12-Feb. 26 | 107 |
| <u>Woodcock:</u> | Dec. 10-Feb. 12 | 65 |
| <u>Doves</u> | | |
| North Zone: | Sept. 3*-18 | 16 |
| | Oct. 15*-Nov. 6 | 23 |
| | Dec. 10*-Jan. 9 | 31 |
| | | <u>70</u> Total |
| South Zone: | Oct. 15*-Nov. 27 | 44 |
| | Dec. 10*-Jan. 4 | 26 |
| | | <u>70</u> Total |
| <u>Teal:</u> | Sept. 17-25 | 9 |

* Season opens at 12:00 Noon on these dates.

Shooting Hours:

1. Sept. Teal Season: sunrise to sunset.
2. Ducks, Geese, Coots, Rails, Gallinules, Woodcock and Snipe: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.
3. Doves: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset except on the opening first two days of each season segment (September 3 & 4, October 15 & 16 and December 10 & 11) when shooting hours are 12:00 Noon until sunset.